

To whom it may concern,

2644 '99 SEP 14 P1 59 September 9, 1999

Molting (Intentionally starving for up to 14 days) is an extremely stressful act that the United States Egg Industry forces on millions of hens each year. Salmonella infection is predisposed to birds and their eggs because of this act. Public Health concerns are raised because of this practice which needs to stop.

Because the FDA has jurisdiction to ban farm practices that injure human health they have been petitioned to ban forced molting. This petition was submitted in April 1998 and should be granted immediately. Bacteria warning labels on egg cartons is not enough. Regulating refrigeration temperatures is not enough. This issue must be dealt with without further delay. A stop must be put to molting in the United States Egg Industry to ensure all of our human safety.

Sincerely,

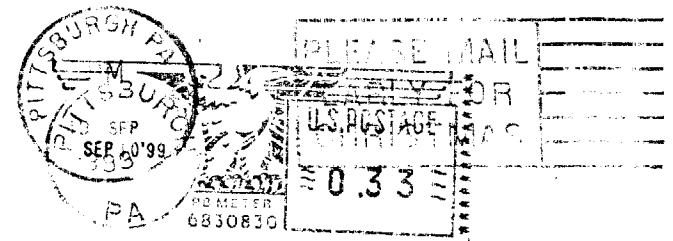
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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
**CROSS REFERENCE SHEET**

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C544

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C545  
96P-0418/C544

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